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METROTALKS with WWF's David Miller

Ottawa metro

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metroNEWS

Public's faith in police oversight lost, says judge

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Unit urged to throw open the floodgates of information

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Police oversight in Ontario should be more open to the public, according to the judge tasked by the government to look at the system.

"Much of the public's faith in the oversight system has been lost," said Justice Michael Tulloch as he released his report. He believes that's largely because the system is not accountable.

Tulloch is calling for better training of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), which takes over when an officer is involved in a death or serious injury or is accused of sexual assault.

He said the unit should be more open about their work, should release all of their investigative reports and should release all past reports as well.

"As much information as possible should be shared with the public about all aspects of the operations," he said.

When charges aren't laid, he recommends that officers' names remain private.

He's also recommending officers be compelled to co-operate with investigations and that former officers should account for no more than half of SIU teams.

Matt Skof, president of the Ottawa Police Association, welcomes the report and believes it will bring much-needed changes.

"It's a very fair report and it's issues we have been putting forward for five years," he said.

Skof said releasing reports publicly is not a challenge, because the information is largely already out there.

"All of these cases are heavily reported on through the media."

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Don't try that Pepsi move in real life — it doesn't work. **World**

Route to museum needs real direction

SCIENCE

Signage must be clearer for tourists, says mayor

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Mayor Jim Watson said better signage will be required to help people find the new Canada Science and Technology Museum in the south-east end of the city.

On Thursday the National Capital Commission approved the master plan for the new museum at 2421 Lancaster Rd. The museum is expected to open in November.

During the meeting Watson admitted that he would have preferred the museum be located in the LeBreton Flats area, closer to downtown, instead of Alta Vista.

"It would have been a great LeBreton project, but that was obviously not meant to be," he said.

"It'll be an exciting addition to that part of the city, but as the mayor of Gatineau indicated we need to do a much better job of tourist signs," said Watson. "It's hard for a tourist to find Lancaster Road and St Laurent. Certainly we'll work with Ottawa Tourism and the museum to better identify where the museum is."

"There's some wonderful artifacts and a part of our history. It was a little underwhelming being in a converted bread factory."

The exterior of the museum will include a steam train and outdoor space. Further up the street a secondary building will contain the museum's larger collection and more greenspace.

The buildings will bring a "modern" look to the area of the city, with dramatic lighting, an aluminum exterior and ceramic panels.

Renderings from the plan for the **Canada Science and Technology Museum**'s new conservation centre. The storage facility will be close by the museum at 2421 Lancaster Road. CONTRIBUTED

> "It would have been a great LeBreton project, but that was obviously not meant to be."
> Jim Watson

HEALTH

Commission approves new hospital land plan

The National Capital Commission has approved the transfer of the Sir John Carling land for the new Ottawa hospital.

Several NCC board members raised concern about the plan for surface parking, the amount of land included in the transfer and the cost of environmental cleanup for the area.

Right now the current plan is to allow the hospital to use the 23 hectares for planning, and unused land can be returned. Board member Norman Hotson argued for the opposite, concerned that extra hectares will result in extra surface parking.

Outgoing chair Russell Mills said the original request from the hospital involved even more land, and the issue of surface parking can be dealt with during the design process.

It will cost at least $11.1-million to remove the rubble of the former government building and chemical residue, according to a numbers released last month by Public Services and Procurement Canada.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

HISTORY

Vimy exhibit marks battle's centennial

The Canadian War Museum is marking the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge with a special exhibition that puts a spotlight on the unique ways people remember.

"It's an exhibition about Vimy, but it uses Vimy as a springboard to talk about commemoration in general," said Molly McCullough, the museum's creative development specialist.

The exhibition, which opened to the public on Thursday, consists mostly of items inside are part of the permanent collection, but the museum also has some remarkable items on loan.

Janessa Porter ties a ribbon to a wall net inside the "Vimy Beyond the Battle" exhibit. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

The exhibition will run from April 6 to Nov. 12. Admission to the museum will be free on April 9, the 100th anniversary of the battle. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

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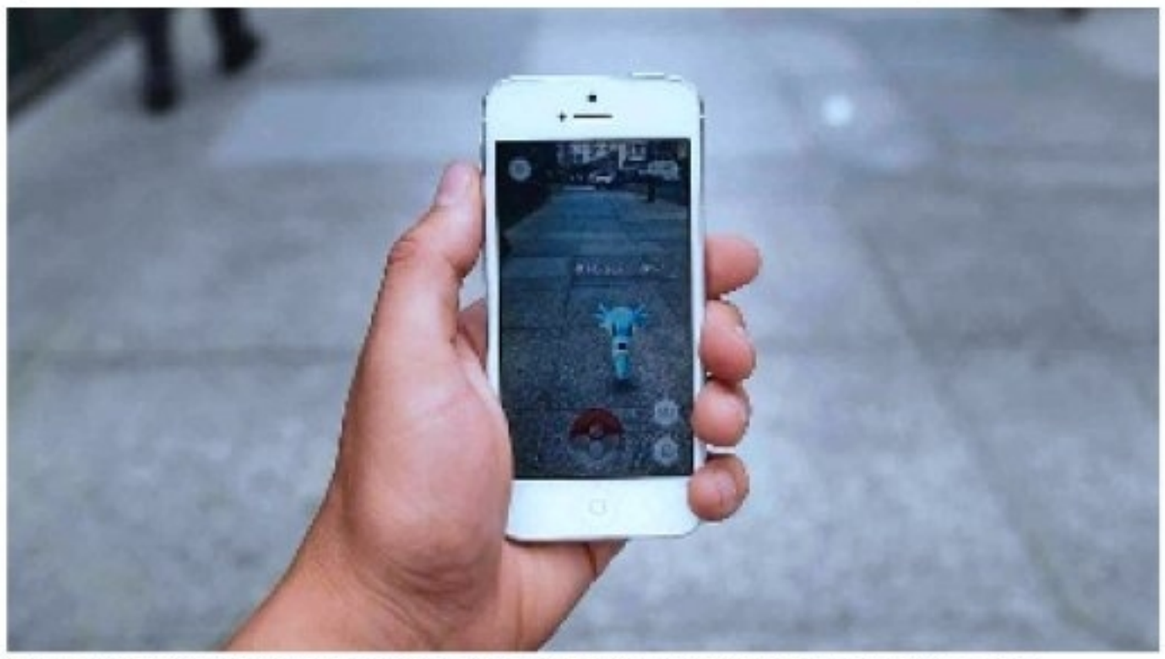
PHONE SNOOPING

Digital-security expert preaches caution in light of revelations

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa



You should keep private information private with the revelation that people are using cellphone tracking technology. METRO FILE

News Parliament Hill and other downtown areas have been the target of cellphone tracking technology should encourage people to use encrypted apps to keep their private information private, experts say.

The CBC reported this week the discovery of three IMSI catcher devices operating in the downtown area. The machines could potentially be used to intercept phone calls and texts.

The devices mimic cellphone towers and essentially fool mobile phones into connecting to them. Nathan Freitas, is the director of the Guardian Project, an initiative that offers open-source tools to protect privacy. He's also a fellow at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. He said the catchers are fairly easy to acquire and can be used to listen to calls, read texts and implant malware on mobile phones.

"For $2,000 anyone can get a laptop-sized device that is a cell tower that will operate as an actual cell tower," he said.

Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said this week that the RCMP and CSIS confirmed to him that they were not using the devices. He said the agencies are now investigating.

Freitas suggested that those who want to keep what's on their cellphones away from prying eyes and ears should consider using encrypted messaging apps like Signal and the most recent version of WhatsApp, which he himself uses even for routine communications with his wife.

"Everything we say, whether it's shopping for milk or organizing date night, is encrypted," he said.

"It's not about spycraft and secrecy, it's about making sure the conversation you and I are having is between you and I."

He said that, just as information on the internet became more secure over time, the security of mobile communications must tighten up.

"There was a time on the internet when we only encrypted credit cards, and now we encrypt everything," he said. "We need to do that for mobile phones as well."

The government has not issued any specific warnings or instructions to Hill staff, but Scott Bardsley, Goodale's press secretary, said confidential or secret information is not shared over phones.

"It's been publicly known before this incident that cellphones are not secure."

> **"For $2,000 anyone can get a laptop-sized device that is a cell tower that will operate as an actual cell tower.**
> Nathan Freitas

ENVIRONMENT

Minister responds to toxins in canal

Alex Abdelwahab
Metro | Ottawa

The minister of environment and climate change has responded to questions after toxins were found in and around the Rideau Canal during rehabilitation work.

Talking to reporters Wednesday, Minister Catherine McKenna said "the first priority for me as minister is the safety of residents of Ottawa. It's not a surprise there are contaminants if you think about the long history of the canal. It was used for industrial and commercial purposes."

McKenna stressed that the sediments in question are low risk to health, but are being monitored. According to information available on the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory, the National Capital Commission has completed initial testing on three hazards found in both the surface soil and groundwater of the Rideau Canal, and further testing is underway.

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METROTALKS DAVID MILLER

People want change

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

It's easy to feel hopeless and overwhelmed by the environmental challenges our planet is facing.

From stopping climate change to protecting endangered species, the tasks are daunting. But that doesn't mean it's time to give up. Everyone has the power to make a difference — in many cases right in their own backyards.

It's one of the key messages David Miller, president and CEO of World Wildlife Fund Canada, spreads every chance he gets. Because, as he puts, "people want hope."

"They really want to be part of something and know what they can do to make a change," he said. "There's an incredible thirst for this."

Miller dropped by Metro's offices to talk about the environmental threats we're facing and what can be done.

Trees

The urban canopy matters for biodiversity, animals, birds and people. It's "extremely important" to provide shade and cool the "urban heat island" that is the concrete jungle.

"There is a beauty and a majesty in trees that speaks to your soul in an urban environment," Miller said.

What you can do:

People need to be inspired "to do their part," said Miller, and protecting and restoring the urban canopy needs to become a priority in cities across the country.

Think before you cut down a tree in your backyard and plant native trees on your own property where possible.

"When someone wants to cut down a tree in a neighbourhood and people come out en masse, that feeling needs to happen collectively," he said.

Wildlife

Miller warned of a "looming crisis in wildlife" that we're not paying attention to.

David Miller
EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

While we've been focused on climate change, two thirds of the world's population of wildlife could be gone by 2020 due to factors life deforestation.

"This is a really serious situation and it hasn't gotten nearly the attention it deserves," he said.

What you can do:

Luckily, "nature has the capacity to rebuild if we let it," said Miller.

Globally, this might mean supporting conservation efforts for animals like the Siberian Tiger or the Snow Leopard.

But you can also make a difference in your own backyard or on your condo balcony.

Planting native species is one way to preserve biodiversity in an urban landscape.

WWF-Canada has programs such as In the Zone Gardens, to help with this.

"If you plant something that helps a relatively small species thrive in an urban area, you've made a real difference," Miller said."Not everything is a panda but they all matter."

Power of cities

Canadian cities have been leaders on climate change, Miller said, and "we shouldn't lose sight" of all the successes. While provinces and the feds often talk to each other on climate change and other issues, "cities aren't seen as partners," Miller said.

What you can do:

Talk to your neighbours and take a community approach when it comes to gardening and planting native species.

"Act collectively," said Miller.

Volunteer with one of the many small NGOs that work to protect urban ecosystems.

WALKING THE WALK
How Miller stays green

He doesn't drink bottled water and plants native species in his garden.

He uses Bullfrog Power electricity and gas at home, which uses methane gas from landfills.

He and his wife have sold their car and walk or take transit instead.

Miller tries to take the train when he can and avoids flying out of Billy Bishop Airport, which he called "a park masquerading as an airport."

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EQUALITY SPOTLIGHT ON WOMEN Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks during the Women In The World Summit at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday in New York City. GETTY IMAGES

SENATE

Beyak says her removal 'a threat' to free speech

Sen. Lynn Beyak says her removal from the Senate's committee for indigenous people is "a threat to freedom of speech," and claims she is supported by a "silent majority" of Canadians.

The Conservative party leadership booted Beyak from the Senate Committee of Aboriginal Peoples on Wednesday, stating that her controversial speech last month about an "abundance of good" in the country's widely maligned residential school system doesn't jibe with the Tory position.

In a statement Thursday, Beyak bemoaned how it is becoming "difficult" to have a "balanced, truthful discussion" about all issues in Canada.

Lynn Beyak

"Political correctness is stifling opinion and thoughtful conversation that we must be allowed to have if we are to truly improve our great country," the statement said.

"Too often, on a broad range of issues, a vocal minority cries foul and offence whenever a point of view is raised that does not align with their own."

She also claimed that, based on expressions of support she has received, she will continue to represent the "majority" of Canadians in the Senate.

Meanwhile, in the foyer of the House of Commons, New Democrat MPs denounced Beyak's latest statement. Romeo Saganash, a Cree MP from Quebec who attended residential school, repeated his call for her to resign her Senate seat.

"Any person that celebrates genocide, because this was genocide, has no place either in Parliament of the Senate," he said. "Removing her from the committee is not enough. She needs to resign, and the sooner the better." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ice core damage a 'nightmare'

ALBERTA

Glaciologist 'in shock' after freezer failure

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

When glaciologist Martin Sharp walked into one of the freezers custom-built for the world's largest collection of Canadian ice cores, it felt like a steam room.

"I think every ice core facility on the planet has the same nightmare — that something like this will happen," he said in an interview Thursday.

Due to what university officials are calling a "freezer failure," the temperature inside the facility rocketed into the 40s on Sunday, up from the -30C or so required to keep the ancient ice cores frozen, Sharp said.

Now 12.8 per cent of the cores — some of which can't be replaced — have been damaged, less than three months after the University of Alberta took possession of the national collection.

"For this to happen so soon after we moved the ice in, it's a total shock," said Sharp, who is also a professor in the department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

Ice cores are some of the best records scientists have of ancient climates, and Sharp said the "major hit" was to some of the oldest cores.

The damage includes 15 metres of a sample drilled from Mount Logan, which represented 16,000 years of time. Another core taken from the Penny Ice cap included ice that would have been part of a large ice sheet covering North America 22,000 years ago.

Still, he said it could have been much worse.

Most of the cores were supposed to be in the freezer that failed, but a visiting TV crew asked they be moved into another one that had better light for filming.

"Just because of the photography we changed the plan at the last minute, and that saved it," Sharp said.

Sharp said that he feels "sick" for the team that designed and built the freezers, as they took the job seriously.

In a statement, Vice-President of Facilities and Operations Andrew Sharman said "the loss of any ice core sample is deeply disappointing to the University of Alberta and to our research teams, who plan to use this ice to answer important questions about climate change and our planet's history."

He said the affected freezer has been restored, an investigation is ongoing, and they're working to insure the issue doesn't happen again.

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PORTLAND

That Pepsi ad doesn't work so well in real life

Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

Kendall Jenner's rightly and mercilessly mocked Pepsi ad was taken for a real-life spin this week, and it did not go well at all.

A man who identified himself as Carlos Enriquez appeared before city council in Portland, Mass. Wednesday to comment on the protests over treatment of the homeless and the fatal police shooting of 17-year-old Quanice Derrick Hayes.

"I'm a former journalist for the Boston Herald," the man said, which is a claim the Boston Herald has denied. "I'm very surprised at how there's so many people who show up to city council and get angry at you and yell at you," he continued.

Mayor Ted Wheeler cut him off insisting that his comments must be about a towing ordinance currently before council.

But the man stood up and approached the mayor while reaching inside his jacket.

A man who identified himself as Carlos Henriquez speaks to city council in Portland, Mass. before trying out that pulled Pepsi ad himself. CONTRIBUTED

"What I realized is that the language of resistance has not been properly translated to you, so this is for you," he said before pulling out a can of Pepsi to offer the council members, who appeared visibly shaken.

"Whoa, whoa, not a good move. Not a smart move," Mayor Wheeler said as he accepted the can. The man is not expected to face any charges.

VIDEO ON THE METRO APP

Hassan Youssef, a victim of Tuesday's suspected toxic gas attack lies in a hospital bed in Idlib, Syria. GETTY IMAGES

Pressure is on for Assad

SYRIA

Chemical attack victims exposed to sarin: Turkey

Syrian President Bashar Assad's government came under mounting international pressure Thursday after a chemical attack in northern Syria, with even key ally Russia saying its support is not unconditional.

Turkey, meanwhile, said samples from victims of Tuesday's attack on the northern opposition-held town of Khan Sheikhoun, which killed more than 80 people, indicate they were exposed to sarin, a highly toxic nerve agent.

Syria rejected the accusations, and Moscow warned against apportioning blame until an investigation has been carried out.

Discussions meanwhile continued at UN headquarters on a Security Council resolution that would condemn the chemical attack.

The Syrian government maintains it didn't use chemical weapons, instead blaming opposition fighters for stockpiling the chemicals. Russia's Defence Ministry said the toxic agents were released when a Syrian airstrike hit a rebel chemical weapons arsenal and munitions factory on the eastern outskirts of the town of Khan Sheikhoun.

President Donald Trump on Wednesday condemned the attack, saying it had crossed "many, many lines" and put the blame squarely on Assad's forces. German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel welcomed Trump's strong condemnation, but warned against a military escalation and urged the U.S. to support UN-backed talks.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault urged a resumption of Syrian peace talks and said he wants Assad's government prosecuted over its alleged use of chemical weapons.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RUSSIA

Three more held in subway bombing

Russian security agents on Thursday arrested three people suspected of links to a suicide bomber accused of attacking Moscow's subway and deactivated a self-made explosive device in the apartment where the suspects lived.

The Investigative Committee, the nation's top criminal investigation agency, said the suspects are residents of the former Soviet Central Asia region like the bomber, 22-year-old Akbarzhon Dzhalilov, a native of Kyrgyzstan. Dzhalilov blew himself up on a busy subway line Monday, killing himself and 13 others and wounding over 50 people.

The impoverished, predominantly Muslim countries in Central Asia are seen as fertile ground for Islamic extremists, and thousands of their citizens are believed to have joined Daesh in Syria and Iraq.

Thursday's arrests came a day after law enforcement agencies detained eight Central Asian migrants suspected of acting as recruiters for Daesh and al-Qaida's Syria branch. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro SCIENCE

Your essential daily news

Warts, scars, and wrinkles, oh my! A study in the Journal of the American Medical Association has identified common facial features of movie villains

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

ENERGY, FOR EVERYONE, FOREVER

Humans love heat. Humans love light. And clearly, the sun isn't enough for us. So what if we could just make another one — a miniature version of the star that powers all the life on Earth? It sounds crazy. But it's not science fiction. It's called the **International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)**, and it just might hold the cure for our energy woes.

THE PROJECT

ITER is under construction in the south of France. Once completed, optimistically around 2035, it will have two purposes: scientific research and acting as a test-run for the electricity plant of the future — fusion reactors.

Estimated price tag: **$20 billion US**; the most expensive scientific instrument ever made. 35 countries are pitching in to the project, which has been plagued by budget problems and delays since its inception in the 1980s.

THE CHEMISTRY

The sun is powered by nuclear fusion: two hydrogen atoms fusing into one helium atom. ITER would replicate the same reaction.

First a powerful electric current heats hydrogen gas, transforming it into plasma.

Cranked up to an out-of-this-world temperature of **150,000,000 C,** the plasma churns around fast enough that it's possible for two hydrogen ions, which would normally repel each other like mismatched magnets, to crash into one another and stick.

This produces one atom of **helium** and one neutral particle called a **neutron**, as well as a whole lot of energy in the form of heat.

The goal for the future would be an unplugged, self-sustaining version of the reactor. The only input needed would be the hydrogen fuel, in two different forms: deuterium (plentiful in seawater) and tritium (scarce but can be made from lithium, an abundant metal).

THE MACHINE

The ITER fusion reactor is called a **tokamak**. The actual reaction will take place within plasma that is suspended in the air in a donut shape by enormous, negatively-charged magnets. These would keep the negatively-charged helium ions inside, but allow the super-hot neutrons to escape through the machine's walls into water-filled cooling towers. In future fusion plants, this heated water will be used to power turbines and alternators, generating electricity the same way a coal plant does. Except fusion produces **four million times more energy than coal.**

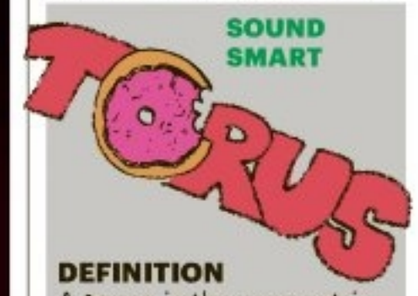
FINDINGS
Your week in science

NOCERA LAB

LEAF BOT
A Harvard-designed "bionic leaf" can both do photosynthesis — absorbing sunlight and carbon dioxide to make fuel — and work with soil bacteria to make its own fertilizer. The result? Significantly larger radishes.

T. REX UNMASKED
A study of an exceptionally good fossil has revealed what the Daspletosaurus horneri, a close relative of the Tyrannosaurus rex, likely looked like up close. Her face was covered in crocodile-like scales, she had a small, fingernail-like horn above each eye, and she lacked lips.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION
A **torus** is the geometric term for "doughnut shape."

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
Every time Deborah jumps into the pool, we have to fish her out with a **torus**-shaped life ring. She always forgets she doesn't know how to swim.

metro Your essential daily news

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Smurfette faces existential crisis

IN FOCUS

This may be the most adult plotline in Smurf history

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Voiced by Demi Lovato, Smurfette ponders her place in the world in Smurfs: The Lost Village. The new movie is the first time other female Smurfs are introduced.
CONTRIBUTED

The all-animated Smurfs: The Lost Village aims to reintroduce the little blue creatures of Smurf Village to a new generation. It's the first time more than one female Smurf exists in the community.

Featuring the voices of Demi Lovato, Joe Manganiello and Michelle Rodriguez, it trades on its inherent cute factor and nostalgia for much of its appeal. There are some good messages for kids woven in and the animation is relentlessly adorable but is there anything here for anyone over the age of five?

In what may be the most adult plotline in Smurf history, it's a hero's journey, a character's search for purpose. It's Joseph Conrad via Smurf Village. Smurfette's Heart of Darkness.

As voiced by Lovato, Smurfette ponders her place in the world. All the other perky pint-sized blue creatures have descriptive names — Clumsy Smurf (Jack McBrayer), Jokey Smurf (Gabriel Iglasias) and Baker Smurf (Gordon Ramsey) — but what exactly, she wonders, is 'ette' supposed to mean?

Smurf aficionados will know she is the only female Smurf, created by wizard Gargamel to sow the seeds of jealousy in Smurf Village. With the help of Papa Smurf she became a beacon of sweetness-and-light and the love interest of Smurfs everywhere.

That's quite a backstory and her quest for purpose is certainly noble, even if her beginnings weren't. The character was first introduced in Franco-Belgian comics magazine Spirou in 1966 as a marketing tool. According to writer Hal Erickson the comely Smurfette was created as a means to "bow to merchandising dictates" and "appeal to little girl toy consumers."

It worked and in the decades that followed Smurfette became the most sought after toy from Smurf Village.

The Smurfs are big business, in addition to this weekend's big screen animated feature, the "three apples tall" characters have been translated into 30 languages (en français: Les Schtroumpfs, in Dutch: De Smurfen) to create an estimated worth of $4 billion, but not all Smurf related marketing has been successful.

Remember Smurf-Berry Crunch? At the height of 1980s Smurf mania Post Cereal released a sugary breakfast cereal they claimed tasted, "like crunchy Smurf Berries… In berry red and Smurfy blue." To ensure the Smurfiest experience possible Post added little blue corn puff berries laden with food colouring to the mix.

Unfortunately the blue additives weren't easily digestible by the body, leading alarmed parents to report cases of blue and strange coloured poop after breakfast time. According to poopreport.com, "when metabolized in sufficient quantity, the blue dye combines with bile," to form a rainbow effect at potty time. The problem was fixed with the release of Smurf Magic Berries, which contained smurfberries made of yellow corn puffs and marshmallows.

For Jack Black Smurf-Berry Crunch also brings back some bad memories. The Kung Fu Panda actor remembers his second professional gig, a breakfast food commercial. "Being in a Smurf-Berry Crunch cereal ad and being pulled along in a red wagon…?" he says, too humiliated to finish the sentence. "My stock plummeted at school."

I was a bit too cynical to buy into the North American Smurf craze of the 1980s — they were so popular one writer called them "kiddie cocaine" — but now in 2017 I see them as something other than an hour-and-a-half advertisement for Smurfs Are Us.

The new incarnation is a sweet kids movie designed for little ones but with just enough grown-up material to keep parents interested.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Smurfs: The Lost Village ★★★
Going in Style ★★★
Song to Song ★
Giants of Africa ★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

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7 reasons to listen to S-Town

The twisty-turny podcast from the producers of Serial that's hard to define

Jonathan Forani
life@metronews.ca

S-Town, the new blockbuster podcast from the team behind Serial, begins with the spectre of murder. From the first twang of main subject John B. McLemore's Alabama accent — "Some'ns happ'ned!" — the listener might be inclined to dub S-Town a kind of Serial: Deep South.

The podcast, narrated by longtime This American Life producer Brian Reed, was inspired by an email sent by ancient-clock restorer John B. McLemore from Woodstock, Alabama. Woodstock is an unassuming small town outside of Birmingham in Bibb County, but McLemore prefers to call it "S–t Town," hence the podcast title.

Here are seven reasons to listen to the new seven-part podcast, which has already been downloaded more than 16 million times since March 28, faster than any podcast ever.

1. John B. McLemore's brilliant rants

"I've about had enough of S–t Town and the things that goes on," he tells Reed in episode one. And he's just getting started. Much of S-Town is made up of phone calls where McLemore goes off on fascinating tangents about climate change, Darfur, acid reflux, Facebook and his S–t Town.

2. To gape at the crudeness of Trump's America

McLemore writes to Reed to decry murder, child molestation and police corruption in Woodstock and requesting the investigative rigour of the This American Life team. When Reed visits the backroom of a local tattoo parlour to investigate a murder, the town's prejudice is as enlightening as it is disturbing.

3. You'll learn more than you thought you wanted to about horology

That's the study of time and clock-making — McLemore's trade. The podcast opens with a description of a horologist's mazelike task of fixing a broken ancient clock. The intricate machines become a metaphor for life through McLemore's eyes. At one point, he quotes from a sundial inscription: "Life is tedious and brief."

4. You'd spend time on John B.'s property too

When Reed makes his way to S–t Town and gets to know McLemore, he learns the man is in his late forties and lives with his elderly mother on a 128-acre property, where he takes in stray dogs and prunes an elaborate hedge maze, when he's not fixing clocks or obsessively researching climate change. After finishing S-Town, you'll want to give the maze a go.

5. It's a murder mystery

McLemore heard that a kid ended up dead in a fight and someone's been going around Woodstock bragging about the murder. That's just the spark that sets off the greater story that's difficult to define and becomes much more than a southern whodunit.

6. It's a treasure hunt

When a central character brags of being "unbanked," you'll wonder if you should start converting all your assets into gold and wrap it up in a towel in the freezer before cutting out the gold-diggers in your life.

7. S-Town is not what you think it is

It's not really a true-crime podcast, though it mimics much of Serial's twisty-turny structure. But it's still a riveting investigation, if not as deeply into murder as it first appears, then into the life of one Alabama man. At times S-Town goes so deep that some have accused Reed and his team of invasiveness.

If they go too far, it's because there's a lot to mine from a man as fascinating as McLemore, the self-proclaimed black sheep in the community that he so despises but won't leave.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

S-Town is hosted by Brian Reed (inset with headphones), who's normally This American Life's senior producer. He's been working on this story for more than three years. INSTAGRAM

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Around the world in a day: See 100 miniature landmarks at Gulliver's Gate in NYC

A link you'll remember forever

GOLF

Northern Ireland's idilyc courses are a golfer's dream

Brian Kendall
For Metro Canada

With the Irish Open set for summer and the Open Championship coming in 2019, Northern Ireland is one of the hottest destinations in golf. Left: Royal Portrush is home to one of the most challenging links courses in the world. Right: Portstewart Golf Club was founded in 1894 and redesigned in the 1920's. CONTRIBUTED

"Don't look up until you hear the ball dancing in the cup," my caddy whispered. "Make this and it'll be a fine thing to remember all your days."

My putt for an eagle three at the par-five ninth hole at Royal Portrush Golf Club was the most thrilling moment of a week-long tour of Northern Ireland's famous links courses, including Royal County Down, Portstewart and Ardglass.

Setting up nervously over my ball, I could almost feel the crash of the Atlantic against the towering sand cliffs that define this ruggedly beautiful and windblown stretch of coastline. Now largely free of the Troubles that once frightened tourists away, Northern Ireland is drawing record numbers of golfers to its more than 90 courses.

Anticipation is already building for the 2019 Open Championship at Royal Portrush, which will be the first Open hosted by the British province since Englishman Max Faulkner lifted the Claret Jug at this same course in 1951. As many as 200,000 visitors are expected at the biggest sporting event to ever be staged here in terms of prestige and global media exposure.

And this summer Rory McIlroy will return to his native soil to defend his title at the European Tour's Dubai Duty Free Irish Open. Played at Portstewart Golf Club July 6-9, the tournament will showcase a magnificent — though sometimes underrated — north coast links that twists through massive sand dunes and alongside a tranquil estuary of the River Bann.

Outside Belfast, Northern Ireland is almost all green and rolling countryside, with farms and villages linked by a spidery network of roads. Establish a base and you can reach almost any golf course within a couple of hours.

Absolutely not to be missed is Royal County Down, the iconic Old Tom Morris design set on a long sweep of Dundrum Bay, an hour's drive down the Irish Sea coastline from Belfast. Vast swathes of gorse and heather line fairways that tumble through sand hills, while tussock-faced bunkers defend approach shots to subtly contoured greens.

Conveniently nearby is Ardglass Golf Club — a course I love more with each visit. Skirting the Irish Sea, Ardglass begins and ends in the middle of a fishing village once occupied by Vikings. Looming over this idyllic setting is the world's oldest clubhouse, an imposing if slightly threadbare castle-like structure built in the 14th century.

Despite the stiff competition, it's 2019 Open host Royal Portrush that has naturally grabbed most of the attention. Two new holes are being built to accommodate huge tournament grandstands on a links that spills down a hillside to seaside cliffs in the north coast town of Portrush.

Royal Portrush's most famous hole is the 14th, Calamity Corner, a par three demanding a heroic carry to a cliff-top green.

But the defining moment of my trip came at the ninth, where not even three jittery putts that turned an eagle into a routine par could spoil a day of golf on one of the world's outstanding links.

For more golf stories, visit Brian's website at canadiangolftraveller.com

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Kevin Durant is scheduled to play in Saturday's home game against New Orleans if he experiences no setbacks to his left knee in practice

metro SPORTS

Finn-ishing touch

HOCKEY

Canada moves onto final after avenging loss, ousting Finland

Marie-Philip Poulin dashed Finland's hopes of pulling off another upset.

Poulin had a goal and an assist in a two-plus-minute span in the second period, helping Canada pull away and beat the Finns 4-0 on Thursday in the women's hockey world championship semifinals.

"We knew they weren't going to give up and had to keep pressure on them," she said. "We had two big goals in that period to give us a 3-0 lead. We wanted the energy to keep going. We had a good start, which has been lacking the last couple of games."

The Canadians will face the winner of the U.S.-Germany game Friday night for gold.

Finland handed Canada a stunning setback in group play with a 4-3 win, but couldn't come close to duplicating the result.

"We were lucky the score was as close as it was early in the game," Finland coach Pasi Mustonen said. "They were very motivated to have a strong start and they did."

Unless the Finns win bronze on Friday, their coach won't call the tournament a success.

"We have not won anything," Mustonen said. "We came here to win a medal and the only way we can do that is by winning Friday."

Canada's Rebecca Johnston flattens Anna Kilponen of Finland on Thursday in Plymouth, Mich. GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

WORLDS Semifinals

CANADA	FINLAND
4	0

The Canadians were in control from start to finish in the rematch. It didn't show up on the scoreboard, though, until late in the first period when Sarah Potomak lifted a shot over Noora Raty's blocker.

"We wanted to come out fast and that goal was huge for us to get it on the board," said Potomak, who has been missing classes at the University of Minnesota to play in the world championship.

Canada's Emily Clark added an empty-net goal with 4:29 left and Shannon Szabados wasn't tested much during a 23-save shutout.

Raty finished with 31 saves for the Finns.

The Canadians will have another chance to redeem themselves against a team that beat them earlier in the tournament. Just after winning an off-ice fight for better wages, the U.S. women's hockey team beat Canada 2-0 in the world championship opener for both teams. After the loss seemed to linger and lead to a setback to the Finns, the Canadians routed Russia to earn a spot in the semifinals.

"Every time you start with a tough start, that's when you get stronger as a team," Poulin said. "That's what we did. We went through adversity and we knew it wasn't going to be easy. It's the women's world championship and every team, they're here to win that gold medal.

"We're on a mission."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MASTERS

Hoffman enjoying four-stroke lead

Charley Hoffman has the largest first-round lead at Augusta National in 62 years.

Hoffman's 7-under 65 in windy conditions gives him a four-shot edge over William McGirt heading to Friday's second round of the Masters.

That's the largest since the 1955 Masters, when Jack Burke Jr. opened with 67 and was four shots ahead of Julius Boros and Mike Souchak.

But, in a reminder that the tournament is never won on Thursday, Burke followed with a 76 that turned his big lead into a six-shot deficit against Cary Middlecoff, who went on to capture the green jacket in a romp.

How tough were the conditions in the opening round of the Masters?

Dustin Johnson GETTY IMAGES

Only 11 players broke par Thursday.

It's the fewest players to break par in the first round of the Masters since only nine managed to do it in 2007.

Lee Westwood shot 70 and eight other players are at 71, a group that includes Phil Mickelson, Justin Rose, Jason Dufner and Sergio Garcia.

Meanwhile, Dustin Johnson was forced to withdraw before his 2:03 p.m. tee time. The world's No. 1-ranked player suffered a lower back injury less than 24 hours earlier in a freak fall at the home he was renting for the week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCCER

Beckie goal spurs Canada to victory

Facing its biggest challenge since last summer's Olympics, Canada dispatched Rio runner-up Sweden 1-0 in a women's soccer friendly Thursday.

Janine Beckie's 34th-minute strike proved to be the difference on a cold, windy day before a crowd of just over 2,000 in Trelleborg, Sweden.

"I thought we played some great football," said Canadian coach John Herdman.

> **To trump Sweden here, this is a really significant result for us just in terms of momentum.**
> John Herdman

"Some of the combination play was as good as I've seen against a Tier 1 team."

The Canadian women wrap up their European tour Sunday against Olympic champion and world No. 1 Germany in Erfurt.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Lower-body injury keeps Karlsson out

The Senators' Erik Karlsson sustained an injury after blocking a shot last week against the Flyers. GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

The Ottawa Senators were without their captain as they attempted to lock down a playoff spot Thursday night in Boston.

Senators head coach Guy Boucher said star defenceman Erik Karlsson was to miss Ottawa's game against the Bruins with a lower-body injury.

Karlsson was hurt after blocking a shot in a game last week against Philadelphia. He missed two games before returning for Ottawa's home-and-home series against Detroit.

The Senators enter Thursday in second place in the Atlantic Division, tied on points with Boston and one up on Toronto.

A point against the Bruins would have guaranteed a playoff spot for Ottawa.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUSPENSION

The NHL suspended Boston forward Brad Marchand for the Bruins' final two games of the regular season for spearing Tampa Bay's Jake Dotchin.

IN BRIEF

Brazil the new No. 1 in FIFA's latest rankings

Brazil has taken over at the top of the FIFA rankings for the first time since 2010.

After losing Lionel Messi to a four-match ban, Argentina lost 2-0 at Bolivia last week and dropped to No. 2.

World Cup winner Germany is still No. 3, followed by Chile and Colombia.

Canada climbed eight positions to No. 109.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Convicted killer or Jordan's father seeks new trial

A man convicted of killing basketball star Michael Jordan's father more than 20 years ago in North Carolina is seeking a new trial, citing juror and law enforcement misconduct.

Media outlets report a judge heard arguments in the case of 42-year-old Daniel Andre Green, who's serving a life sentence for the killing of James Jordan in Lumberton in 1993.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Sweet Ginger Apple Skillet Crumble

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

If there's a homier dessert than a crumble, we haven't found it. This apple and ginger combo is a winner on a Friday night.

Ready in 50 minutes
Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 45 minutes

Ingredients
- 5 Tbsp cold-pressed coconut oil, melted
- 4 honey crisp apples, thinly sliced
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1/4 cup spelt flour
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground ginger
- 1/2 cup spelt flour
- 1/2 cup quick cook oats
- 1 Tbsp flax meal
- 1/2 tsp salt
- pinch of nutmeg

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350.

2. Melt coconut oil in a 10-inch oven-safe skillet, a minute or two. Remove skillet from oven and swirl oil around to coat the pan, then pour off the oil into a glass container; set aside to cool a bit.

3. Place apples in the warm skillet and stir in lemon juice, flour, sugar, cinnamon and ginger.

4. For topping, combine flour, oats, flax meal, salt and nutmeg in a bowl. Pour in warm coconut oil and, using your hands, work it through the oat mixture until it has small clumps. Take handfuls of the oat mixture and sprinkle across the apples in an even layer, lightly pat it down. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes or until apples are bubbling and fork tender.

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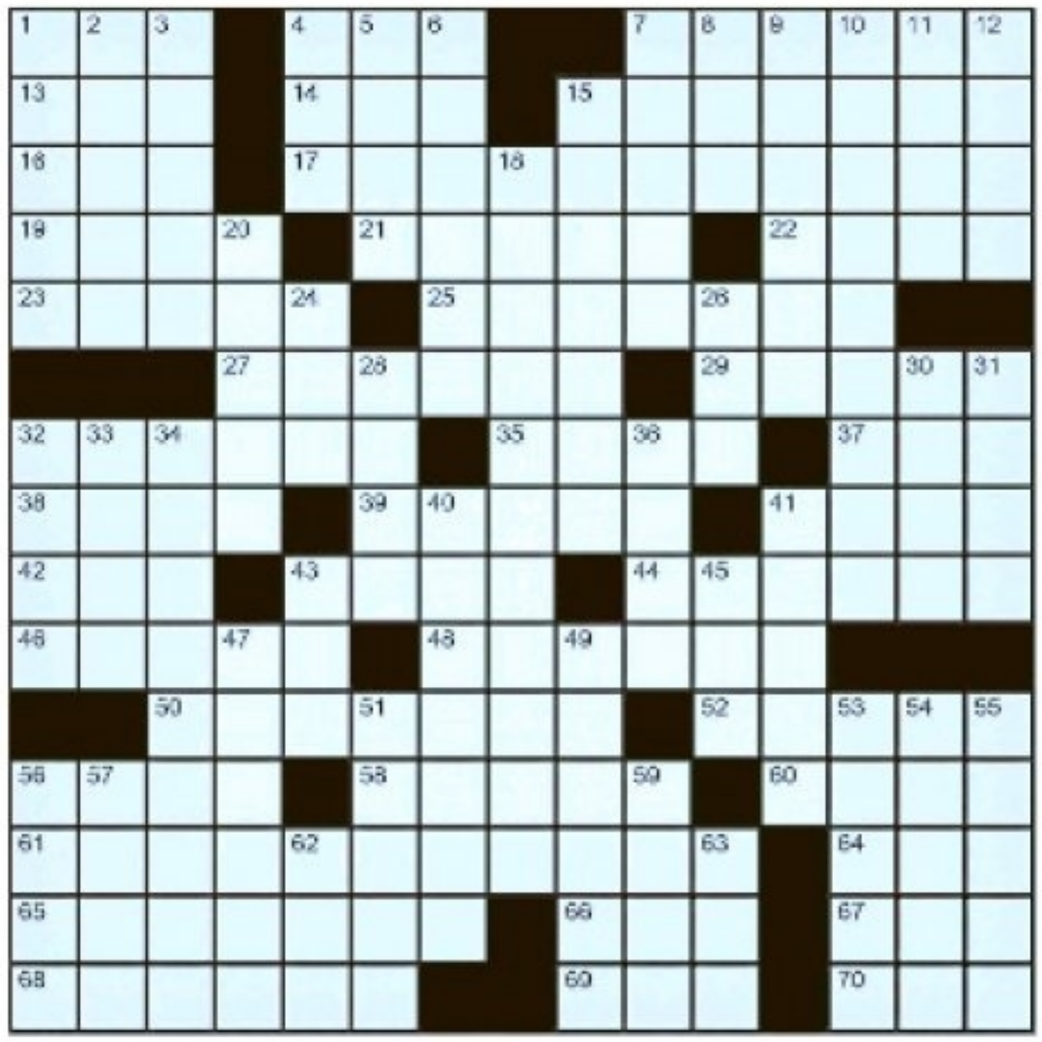
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Learned letters
4. Finish
7. Some soft drinks
13. Arctic explorer John
14. Iron: French
15. Do documentary dialogue
16. Philosophy
17. Nova Scotia town on Chedabucto Bay
19. Earring kind
21. Qatar monetary unit
22. Hershey's treat
23. Virtue
25. '90s-style music storage piece: 2 wds.
27. Christian beliefs document of 325 AD, The __ Creed
29. The Troggs: "Love __ __ Around"
32. ARC = Agence du __ du Canada
35. Chows down
37. Suit accessory
38. Wife, in Latin
39. Frank Sinatra: "__ __ to the Moon"
41. Tapestry thread
42. Napoleonic Wars marshal
43. Speck
44. Dances to Chubby Checker's famous tune
46. Prefix to 'comedy' (Theatrical genre)
48. Apple quaffs
50. Island in the Strait of Georgia where #61-Across is located
52. Bakery supply
56. Nobleman
58. Flower, in Fortierville
60. Back
61. As per #50-Across... British Columbia community which has a ferry terminal: 2 wds.
64. Fellow
65. U2's "Where the __ Have No Name"
66. Caustic substance
67. Entries
68. Flavours
69. 'Velvet' suffix
70. Wknd. day

DOWN
1. 'Group of the Year' Juno-winner in 1961
2. Hurriedness
3. Object
4. Alphabetic trio
5. Nerves-related prefix
6. Fog machine need: 2 wds.
7. Renaissance painter, __ Veronese (b.1528 - d.1588)
8. Drift
9. Non-poetic writings
10. Ottawa-born rap star/producer, and classically-trained violinist
11. Luba hit: "Let __ __"
12. Very, in Vienna
15. Toronto Raptors, e.g.: 2 wds.
18. Nova Scotia community historically known for coal production and steel making: 2 wds.
20. All-day breakfast establishment
24. Can
26. Belonging to Milwaukee's li'l state
28. Fridge capacity, e.g., 28 __. __.
30. Raise
31. Permits
32. Pipsqueak pup
33. One making the opposite of a check mark, say
34. Canadian History: They transported goods between trading posts via birchbark canoes
36. Head: French
40. Venues
41. Smarter
43. Be under the weather
45. Sardonic
47. Artist's lofty space
49. x 2
51. "I wonder __ __ cold outside?" (Should I wear a jacket?)
53. Greek mythology shield
54. Steamy spot
55. Rendezvous
56. Note-passer's sound
57. Katharine's "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" (1969) character
59. Showbiz performer Martha
62. Rocker Mr. Snider
63. Languish

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You feel boisterous and "large" today. You want to do everything in a big way! And yes, you feel confident and happy as well. Whoopee!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today you feel quietly confident and content with yourself. Success at your job is starting to show, and you know that despite recent obstacles, you can pull this off.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You feel popular today — and indeed, you are. People are attracted to your positive attitude and exuberance. Naturally, it's because enthusiasm is contagious!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is an excellent day to talk to bosses, parents and VIPs, because everyone is in a positive and winning frame of mind. That makes them see you in a good light. Go for it!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You are entertaining big travel ideas today, because you feel the need to get away from all this. You want to go somewhere where life is big and you're thrilled to be there. Do it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You are confident when negotiaing wills, inheritances or anything regarding shared property. You won't sell yourself short, and you also will be fair with others

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Relationships with partners and close friends are uplifting and fun-filled today. This is a great day to enjoy schmoozing with others, because you're in a good mood. It's just that simple.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You can accomplish a lot at work today simply because you know you can. Confidence in doing something is the bottom line to making it happen.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a wonderful, playful and creative day! Social excursions, sporting events and fun activities with children will be successful. A romantic date will be memorable.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Relationships with family members are positive today, because people are in a good mood. People feel warm and friendly toward each other. This is an excellent day for family discussions.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your positive attitude will guarantee success in everything you do today. It's a strong day for writers, actors, teachers and anyone in sales and marketing. Yahoo!

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Business and commerce are favored today. "There's money in them thar Hills!"

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		7	5					
		9		1				
		8			6			
		6				7		
		1	6	9	4	8	5	
9				3				
6		5	8	2	1	4	3	7
	1							9
		3	4	7	9	1	6	

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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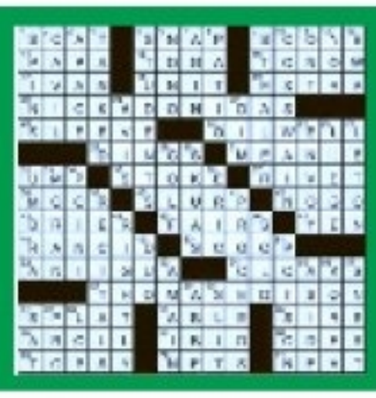

5	2	6	1	8	4	9	7	3
1	3	4	7	2	9	8	5	6
8	9	7	3	6	5	2	4	1
2	7	5	4	9	3	1	6	8
3	6	1	2	5	8	7	9	4
9	4	8	6	1	7	5	3	2
6	5	9	8	3	2	4	1	7
7	1	2	9	4	6	3	8	5
4	8	3	5	7	1	6	2	9

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